

Jan Skácel – „A Poet Prohibited Alive“

The thesis looks at the writer Jan Skácel from a historical perspective, it shows him as a significant personality, whose life story reflected his era and his country. The first, chronological part of the thesis begins by showing the roots of his family: his father, a teacher and a legionary of the First World War, and his mother who was a teacher as well. The thesis continues over Skácel's childhood and growing up in the period of the „first republic“, the Second World War, most of which Skácel spent Third Reich in Totaleinsatz, the post-war years full of enthusiasm for communist ideals, over his significant success in literature in 50's and 60's and his full involvement in the events of the „Prague Spring“. After the „August occupation“ in 1968 the thesis follows his exclusion from the Communist party and a ban on literary activity in the whole of 70's, an epoch of moderate loosening of restrictions and a partial permission of publishing in 80's, to Skácel's death close before the „Velvet Revolution“ of 1989. In the second part this thesis touches several important topics, as are the way of reflection of his period in Skácel's writings, his connection with Brno and the region of south Moravia, his reaction to censorship in the era of war and in the epoch of the so called „normalization“, or the influence of Jan Skácel on other authors and readers and his importance for them.